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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE GROUP

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Next Review Date: 2008

COUNTRY Austria

DATE: 25X1A

INFO.

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SUPPLEMENT

SUBJECT Scheduled Production of Sulphuric Acid
in Soviet-Controlled Concerns

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ORIGIN

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1. The dismantled and damaged chemical plant at Moosbierbaum will shortly be restored under a new plan with a production goal of 27,500 tons of sulphuric acid yearly. A Soviet civilian named Shimkov has arrived from Moscow to enlist the cooperation of the Austrian directors of the Donau-Chemie A.G. in restoring plant production. Shimkov states that he has an 8,000,000 schilling budget allotment from the Soviet Military Bank with which to begin reconstruction.
2. At present, sulphuric acid is hard to obtain in Austria. This acid and its derivatives are badly needed for the paper industry; iron production, explosives, fertilizer, etc. The only plant currently producing sulphuric acid is Chemische Werke Wagenmann, Seybel and Co., A.G. at Liesing, whose output totals about 7,000 tons a year; the plant specializes in the production of battery acid. This concern was formerly Austrian state property but is now under Soviet requisition and is selling limited amounts of acid only at a high price of 800 schillings a ton.
3. Official estimates of Austria's sulphuric acid needs set by the Ministry for Trade and Reconstruction were established at 50,000 tons annually.

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